

## Secret Italian Gangs Watched In Kidnapping

20 Men Under Surveillance as Police Search for Five-year-old Boy Who Is Held for \$2,500 Ransom

Mother Prays for Baby

Mrs. Verotta Fears He Will Be Drowned: Believed Hidden Outside the City

Twenty men, known by the police to be associated with secret societies, were under close surveillance last night by Chief Michael Fiaschetti, of the Italian detective squad, and his staff, in connection with the kidnapping of Giuseppe Verotta, five-year-old Italian boy, from the home of his father, Frank Verotta, 354 East Thirteenth Street.

Facts that came to the knowledge of the police yesterday afternoon make them suspicious that the demand on Verotta for \$2,500 is due to the belief of the so-called blackhand gang responsible for it, that Verotta recently received a considerable sum of money in settlement of a damage suit brought by him in behalf of his son Adolph Verotta, sr., employed by the Sayles-Zahn Company, butchers, at 128 Sixth Avenue. Although no settlement has been made in the damage suit, it has been rumored in the vicinity of Verotta's home that he had received a large sum from the suit.

The detectives are working on the theory that while Verotta has never been molested by demands from any of the secret society bands hitherto, it has been due to the belief that he had no money.

**Simplifies Police Case**  
The demand for \$2,500, the police say, is evidence that the threat against Verotta is a simple one. The threat writers believe Verotta has money, and it simplifies matters considerably from the police point of view, because persons most likely to hear of Verotta's whereabouts are those who would be those living in his immediate neighborhood.

Detectives believe one of the three blackhand gangs that have been operating with most success during the last four months is responsible for the Verotta kidnapping, and all known members of the three clubs or societies are being kept under observation. The three gangs have headquarters in Brooklyn.

A. W. Stewart, an attorney with offices at 44 Wall Street, who prosecuted the damage suit brought by Verotta on behalf of his son, Adolph, when the latter was badly injured in a motor-car explosion, yesterday offered \$500 reward for the arrest of the kidnapers or information leading to the return of Giuseppe Verotta to his parents.

Mrs. Verotta, mother of the missing boy, who is in delicate health, was arrested yesterday by the police, and women neighbors, who assured her that the child would be returned to her within a few hours. When left alone, the mother is obsessed with fear that Giuseppe will be drowned by his abductors.

**Mother Prays Constantly.**  
She prays constantly, and is comforted by the visits of a priest, Chief Fiaschetti, of the Italian Squad, said last night by the police. She is constantly praying for the return of her son, all pointing in the same direction, but that it would be premature to make arrests or to take action that would arouse suspicion in certain quarters.

One of the gangs under suspicion is made up of Palermo Sicilians and others under suspicion are known to have been members of Camorra and similar societies in Calabria and other parts of southern Italy. If any important support is found for the supposed clues now in the hands of Giuseppe and his mother, several arrests are to be expected within a few hours.

The police believe that young Verotta has been taken out of New York and is held in another city. The opinion is also held that when the kidnapers discover from newspaper reports that Verotta did not get the damage suit money and is practically penniless an effort will be made to return the boy if it can be done without risk of capture to the men involved.

## Girl Ranch Owner Works As Family Cook in London

Former Nurse Had Pocketbook Stolen, So She Hunted a Job

LONDON, May 10 (By Mail).—A cook living in the London suburb of Ealing owns a South African ranch, according to a report in The London Star.

The income from the ranch makes her independent, but having taken on the job in the kitchen she prefers to work rather than do nothing, till she returns to South Africa.

Her mistress declares that "Jane" is a wonderful worker, and that as a "maid-of-all-work" it would be impossible to find a more willing or trusted helper.

"Jane" came to England to recuperate after arduous war nursing service in Mesopotamia, and the story of how she was driven to cook is a remarkable one.

The new tenant of the ranch had just sent her her first cheque for the rent, and "Jane" took it to the West End and cashed it.

Placing the notes in a handbag, she went into a teashop and had the bag stolen.

Literally penniless, she trudged from the West End to one of the outlying suburbs, borrowed some money from a nurse she had known in Mesopotamia, and then went to an employment agency in search of work in any capacity.

She got the cook's job.

**Royal Stationers Charge a "Search Fee" to Look at Papers**

LONDON, May 7 (By Mail).—His Majesty's Stationery Office, if it wastes money on paste and posters, is making it in another way, says a writer in the London Daily News. This is an actual experience of a friend of the writer at the Kingsway branch of the Stationery Office. He wanted to buy a copy of The Dublin Gazette for Tuesday last, that being the equivalent of the London Gazette in Ireland. It was there, but not for sale. But he was offered a look at it for one shilling, as a "search fee." He argued that a copy of a government Gazette published at the public expense should be for sale in a government sales office. It was no use. He could have his glance at one shilling or he could go to the British Museum and see a copy there!

**Weighted Body Found in Bay**

The body of a man, nude, headless and armless, was found in New York Bay off Black Tom, Jersey City, last night. An iron pipe two feet long was tied to the right leg. The body was found by a Light Valley Railroad police on duty near the shore. Only shoes and socks were on the body. It had been in the water a long time. The body was taken to the morgue. The police are investigating.

## "Castle Bergdoll," Seized by U. S.



Philadelphia home from which the famous fugitive draft dodger escaped from army officers and fled to Germany and where his mother now lives. It has been taken over by the Alien Property Custodian.

## Frank M. Boylan, Salesman, Named in Reid Case by Error

Was in Church at Time of Affair in Warner Home: Similarity of Names Is Cause of Embarrassment

Frank M. Boylan, salesman for Frank B. Hyde & Co., hat manufacturers, whose home is in St. Albans, L. I., and whose name was erroneously connected with a gathering at the home of Mrs. Hazel Warner, 1892 University Avenue, at which John H. Reid was mysteriously wounded on May 13, returned yesterday from a business journey joyously prepared to manhandle anyone mentioning the matter except apologetically.

At the time of the Reid shooting Mr. Boylan was in Pittsburgh attending to business in a sampleroom of the Penn. Hotel, and although questioned there by reporters as to his whereabouts on the previous day, did not regard the questioning seriously. He did later, however, when he discovered that a man with a name very similar to his had been connected with the Reid affair and that newspaper reports had used the name Frank M. Boylan in referring to the other man, whose name is Frank T. Boylan. While persistently informing his humorously inclined friends that there was more than one Boylan in the world the New Yorker did not realize until his return home, yesterday that the error had really deceived some people into connecting him with the near tragedy.

The Tribune, which in common with other newspapers published the name of Frank M. Boylan, mistakenly established that Boylan was attending church in Pittsburgh on the day of the shooting and could not by any conceivable possibility have been a member of the Warner party, but, as Mr. Boylan pointed out yesterday, that didn't convince his customers and friends in Harrisburg, Chester, Philadelphia and other cities visited by him on his way home, that he wasn't the Boylan involved. The good-natured St. Albans says he was compelled to sustain shy digs in the ribs and remarks on the gay life he was leading from all sides.

It is, therefore, no more than just that Mr. Boylan's friends of the Square Club and the St. Albans Pioneers should be set right on facts in the case, which are that the Boylan involved in the matter at issue was quite another man.

## Bones Found at Schutte Home Called Human

Connecticut Man's Story That He Had Burned Up a Dog Discredited by Examination of Expert

Eight Sons Opposing Him

Wife Whom He Is Said to Have Tried to Shoot May Turn Against Husband

**Special Dispatch to The Tribune**  
HARTFORD, Conn., May 29.—In the opinion of Dr. J. T. Mitchell, of Middletown, the bones, found in the ashes remaining after a huge bonfire in the back lots of Emil Schutte's home at Shalleville, belonged to a human being and by no possible stretch of imagination or medical science could they be classified as the bones of a dog.

Schutte, who is in the Haddam County jail for shooting at his wife, the preliminary hearing being postponed until June 16 when he will be charged with one and perhaps four murders, says he killed his dog and burned it on the hill where the police believe they found the charred remains of the accused's aged farmland, Dennis Ladue. Captain Robert T. Hurley, of the state police, has kept away from Schutte during his ten days' investigation, having talked with him but once, though he plans to see him Tuesday.

**Sons Against Father**  
At this first conversation Schutte, who then thought he was in jail because his wife and eight sons could not raise the seemingly high bail of \$10,000 named for attempting to shoot his wife, told Captain Hurley that any bones found must be those of a dog he had killed and carried up to a high hill west of his store to be burned.

Mrs. Schutte, who has been in a state of collapse the last week, because of the reaction after years of turbulent and domineering domestic life with Schutte, is likely to be found lined up against her husband, and it is certain that all the eight sons are determined to see through what they have started. Two of them have signed statements which Captain Hurley has transmitted to Middlesex County State's Attorney Ernest F. Inglis, one statement by son Julius telling of his forced participation in the Ball tragedy and how he was compelled to accompany his father the night of December 11, 1915, when the night of the tragedy, Schutte started on his flight, and after driving the cottage of Joseph Ball, shot Ball, his wife and eighteen-year-old son as they rushed from the burning house.

**Reads Life of Grant**  
The youngest son, Augustine, twelve years old, has told the detectives of what he discovered five weeks ago this afternoon, when he suspected that something unusual had happened at the small building south of the Schutte store, and standing on tiptoe, so as to peer into the solitary window to Ladue's sleeping quarters, saw the body of the farmhand on the bed, the head resting on a bloody pillow. When he looked the next day the body was gone, and it was that Sunday night that Schutte hitched up a wagon and, after campy at the building where Ladue lived, drove up into the West Mountain.

Schutte after endeavoring to obtain a counsel at Hartford lawyer and a lawyer at Middletown, retained Gustav F. Carlson, of Middletown, who has associated with him Attorney Carl F. Anderson. Both of them have warned Schutte not to talk to anybody, and so today the prisoner passed his time looking over the life of General Grant, which was his selection from the little jail library, consisting of Alger and Hasty novels, Longfellow's poems and Dickens's "A Tale of Two Cities."

**Widow Must Enter Convent**  
A Parisian has ruled his large fortune to his widow on condition that she enters a convent and devotes the remainder of her life to prayer.

## Great Funeral Lamp Will Light Graves Of Italian Heroes

Searchlight Will Shine Constantly Upon Cemeteries in Gorizia District Where Lie Bodies of Soldier Dead

**From a Special Correspondent**  
MILAN, May 6 (By Mail).—Italy remembers and honors the heroes of the Great War. The Gorizia district, where the Carco hills begin, was for three years the spot where the fiercest and more or less continuous fighting occurred. Nearly 200,000 Italians and as many Austrians fell between Caporetto, Gorizia and Montebello. At the summit of Redipuglia hill, near Gorizia, a great memorial tower is being erected which will receive a powerful searchlight that will be visible for hundreds of miles round.

The hill is being converted into an immense cemetery, where by degrees the bodies of the soldiers buried in surrounding places are being removed. A body of 6,000 soldiers, directed by 110 officers and 25 military chaplains, have been busy for two years over this work of mercy and identification.

More than 4,000 small cemeteries distributed in the surrounding mountains and valleys have been visited and rearranged and many of them emptied. A few French and British cemeteries alternate themselves with Italian ones but all are links of the same tragic endless chain.

Most of the soldiers chosen for this reorganization work are expert masons and marble workers, so that beautiful and artistic work is being willingly done. Already 300,000 graves have been visited and rearranged and 260,000 identifications are being accounted for, which is considered a very large percentage. Identification must often proceed under serious difficulties when documents and special indicative labels are missing. Small various objects collected often materially help in identifications, but this requires extensive correspondence with relatives who are spread all over Italy. The correspondence already covers half a million letters. The luminous tower on Redipuglia hill is intended to remain constantly lit at night time like a funeral lamp, and is meant to shine for miles round on all the surrounding graveyards, thus remembering all the exploits of endurance and courage celebrated in the third Italian Army Corps which won, and lost, and won, the whole district through four years of the hardest fighting that probably the world ever saw.

**Rhubarb 57 Inches Long**  
Sticks of rhubarb measuring fifty-seven inches in length have been raised by an English gardener.

## Whisky Mash Ignites When Gas Stove Explodes

Still and All Ingredients for Making Liquor Found in Apartment House Fire

Ten gallons of half-cooked whisky mash that ignited when a gas stove exploded set fire to the Hudson-Fulton apartment house, at 36 West 114th Street, last night, a 10:30 general and two fire companies required thirty minutes to extinguish the blaze.

Sergeant Frank Hughes, of the West 123d Street police station, investigating the cause of the fire found that it originated in a one-room apartment in the basement. In this room Sergeant Hughes found five barrels of mash, three fifty-pound bags of sugar, four boxes of yeast and other ingredients of home brew. In a copper still, ten gallons of what the police describe as "still" whisky remained blazing after the rest of the fire had been extinguished.

The thick smoke that filled halls and corridors of the apartment house drove half the occupants to the street and before the fire was extinguished a crowd of such proportions had gathered that the West 123d Street station reserves were called out to maintain order.

Joseph Williams, a negro elevator operator, employed in the building, told Sergeant Hughes that the superintendent had rented the one-room apartment which the fire occurred to a young man whose name the elevator operator did not know.

## German Shipyards Flourish Despite Drawbacks of War

Thousands Employed in All Industries, and Though Pay Is Low They Seem Contented, Britisher Says

LONDON, April 25 (By Mail).—A prominent Hull business man connected with shipping, who has just returned from a tour of German shipyards, makes some disquieting comparisons of the condition of affairs there and those in Great Britain, according to The Westminster Gazette.

Interviewed by a Central News correspondent, he said the German workmen, although paid wages much lower than those in this country, had a smart appearance and there was a general air of satisfaction among them. They are able to get very little meat, there is no wheat bread and little milk, but they are working their hardest and there is no loafing.

At the great iron works of Lauchhammer at Riesa, on the Elbe, 14,000 men, he says, are fully employed and the Vulcan Company are employing 4,000 men at their Hamburg and Stettin shipyards, where work goes on night and day. A new shipyard has been started on the Elbe since the armistice, with berths for twenty ships, all fully occupied.

"A number of British ships," said the observer, are undergoing repairs in German yards. The owners of these vessels have their representatives over in Germany superintending the work, and they commented on the expeditious and workmanlike way in which the contracts are being fulfilled. The charges are most reasonable in comparison with those in England, and they are highly satisfied.

The splendid organization of the yards was most impressive. There was a shortage of coal in Germany, but the furnaces were being kept going with an admixture of coal briquettes and turf. English business men were received with open arms, but that did not apply to Frenchmen.

"Germany," said the Central News informant, seems bent upon having a new mercantile fleet, and it looks as if the Allies are getting old scrap iron as indemnity."

**Meat Makes Japanese Grow**  
Japanese soldiers have increased two inches in height on an average since meat was included in their rations.

**Russia Prohibits Bibles**  
Bibles are absolutely prohibited in Russia.

## Rich Italian Slain In Home; Murder Is Laid to Envy

Police Are Told Prisoner Had Been Refused Use of Auto by Brooklyn Merchant, Grown Wealthy in Year

Alfonso Vitillo, forty years old, the proprietor of a restaurant in Columbia Street, Brooklyn, that was one of the most popular meeting places among the Neapolitans of the Red Hook Italian colony, was shot and killed early yesterday in the hallway of his home at 42 Carroll Street, Brooklyn. After the arrest of three men in connection with the shooting, the Brooklyn police expressed the opinion that Vitillo may have been killed by some compatriot who had become jealous of his success since his arrival in America a year ago.

Vitillo came to the United States in the steerage. After working at menial tasks for several months, during which time he added to the small savings he brought with him from Italy, he purchased a coffee house in Columbia Street and after extensive alterations opened it as a restaurant. The venture proved successful and Vitillo had

amassed a considerable fortune, purchased an expensive automobile and was planning to return to his native country within a month to bring his wife and family to the home he had made for them here.

Patrolman James P. Hurley, of the Hamilton Avenue station, heard two shots in Carroll Street early yesterday and saw a man dart out of the doorway of Vitillo's home. He followed the fugitive, who entered a house a few doors away. On the second floor of the house, Patrolman Hurley found a 38 caliber revolver with two chambers empty. On the third floor he arrested a man who gave his name as Vincent Manzi, of 246 Columbia Street, Brooklyn.

Two other men were taken into custody, who are reported to have told the police that they were the last diners in Vitillo's restaurant on Saturday night. They said they saw Manzi talking to Vitillo and that Manzi requested the use of Vitillo's automobile during his absence abroad. When the owner refused this request, the two men said, Manzi left the restaurant.

When aid reached Vitillo he was too weak from loss of blood to make any statement. He was taken to the Long Island College Hospital, where he died without having regained consciousness.

Manzi is held on a charge of homicide. John Yodice, twenty-two years old, of 165 Woodhull Street, and Frank Santanillo, also twenty-two years old, of 43 Woodhull Street, are detained at Brooklyn Police Headquarters as material witnesses.

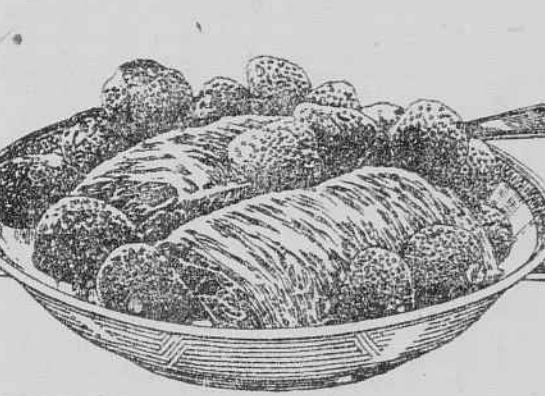
## You may be Sane

in everything but eating—level-headed in business, but daily digging your grave with your teeth. You eat the wrong foods and too much. Keep the body buoyant and the mind alert by eating

## Shredded Wheat

the food for the worker with hand or brain—contains everything the human body needs, prepared in a digestible form. More nutritious than meat or eggs and costs much less.

Two biscuits make a satisfying meal. Delicious with berries or other fruits.



The Store is closed to-day (Memorial Day)

## B. Altman & Co.

MADISON AVENUE-FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

Thirty-fourth Street

Thirty-fifth Street

## The Men's Clothing Department

specially features

## MEN'S GOLF SUITS

(coat and knickers)

at \$45.00 to 65.00

(In many instances long trousers to match can be supplied at moderate additional cost.)

There is a large and varied assortment of these Suits, comprising many attractive models and quality materials. The tailoring is excellent in all.

Men's Clothing Department, SIXTH FLOOR

(Thirty-fourth Street elevators)

for the -  
TRAVELER or  
BUSINESS MAN

MAKE locating sailings as simple as looking up a telephone number by using the—

## Shipping & Travel Page of The Tribune

No searching through jumbled lists—no more uncertainty as to whether or not you've located the best ship or the nearest date. Luck has been eliminated. Convenience takes its place.

Here are the outstanding features of the Tribune Shipping and Travel Guide:

—an alphabetical list of the Ports of the World

—sailings arranged chronologically under Ports of Departure.

—each Sailing Date shows the Name of the Steamer, the Operating Company, and a key letter tells whether it is a passenger, freight or refrigerator ship.

—an index of Operating Companies gives the agent's name, address and telephone number.

This Shipping and Travel Guide appears every business day in The New York Tribune.

Facing the Shipping and Travel Guide is a page covering reports of shipping and the news of foreign trade. This page is a distinct aid to every one interested in the movement of ships.

The Sailings of more ships are listed in The Tribune than in any other generally circulated newspaper in America.



NEW YORK  
TRIBUNE